

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/730,072

Examiner

Steven M Marsh

Applicant(s)

SHEN, TUNG-LUNG

Art Unit

3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's communication received on 9 December 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first office action for U.S. Application 10/730,072 for a Combination Foot Member filed by Shen Tung-Lung on December 9, 2003.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not disclose a foot member with a first part and a second part coupled to each other, whereby each part comprises: a base with a top wall, a first sidewall, a second sidewall opposite to the first sidewall, and a bottom receiving chamber defined by the top wall, the first and second sidewalls; a forwardly extended guide board suspended in the bottom receiving chamber near the first sidewall below the elevation of the top wall, the top wall having a front side terminating in a butt end near the second sidewall and a rear side provided with a coupling structure; the guide board having a L-shaped stop member downwardly extended from a front side thereof and an opening faced to the first sidewall; the second sidewall having a horizontal guide rail disposed at an inner surface thereof and terminating in a downwardly extended stop flange; a sideboard pivoted to the coupling structure of the base and turnable to a vertical position perpendicular to the base; wherein when coupling the first part and the second part to each other, the guide board of each of the first part and the second part is respectively inserted slantwise into the bottom receiving chamber of the other of the first part and the second part to force the respective L-shaped stop member to overstride the corresponding stop flange; wherein the guide board of each of the first

part and the second part is respectively inserted straightly into the bottom receiving chamber of the other of the first part and the second part for enabling the respective L-shaped stop member to slide forward along the corresponding horizontal guide rail; and wherein when separating the first part and second part from each other, the respective L-shaped stop member slides backward along the corresponding horizontal guide rail and stops at the corresponding stop flange.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent 5,020,768 to Hardt et al.

U.S. Patent 5,263,668 to Reiter

U.S. Patent 5,774,332 to Ruch et al.

U.S. Patent 6,059,384 to Ho

U.S. Patent 5,192,046 to Howard

U.S. Patent Des. 338,882 to Reiter

U.S. Patent 5,040,766 to Egly et al.

U.S. Patent 6,439,528 B1 to Goto et al.

U.S. Patent 6,497,013 B1 to Goto et al.

U.S. Patent 4,638,744 to Clive-Smith


U.S. Patent 4,874,099 to Arnott et al.

U.S. Patent 5,295,648 to Hames

U.S. Patent 6,364,278 B1 to Lin et al.

The above patents all disclose stands and bases.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven Marsh whose telephone number is (703) 305-0098. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30 PM. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.


Steven M. Marsh

June 24, 2004


LESLIE A. BRAUN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER